

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/725,736

Examiner

Richard M. Lorence

Applicant(s)

DIEMER ET AL.

Art Unit

3681

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on August 1, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8 and 10-21.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>20051006</u> . |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>7/18/05</u> | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

RESPONSE TO AMENDMENT

The amendment filed on August 1, 2005 has been entered. The specification and claims 1-8 and 10-21 have been amended.

The replacement drawing sheet (1/11) was received on August 1, 2005. The drawings are acceptable.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Alfred Froebrich on October 6, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In line 1 of claim 8 "claim 1" has been changed to - - claim 20 - -.

In line 1 of claim 10 "claim 1" has been changed to - - claim 20 - -.

In line 1 of claim 12 "claim 1" has been changed to - - claim 20 - -.

In line 2 of claim 12 "each said" has been changed to - - said restoring arrangement includes restoring elements, each of said restoring elements - -.

In line 3 of claim 12 "said end area" has been changed to - - circumferential end area of said friction lining element - -.

In line 1 of claim 18 "claim 1" has been changed to - - claim 20 - -.

In line 1 of claim 19 "claim 1" has been changed to - - claim 20 - -.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Claims 1-8 and 10-21 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

None of the prior art of record shows or suggests a clutch disk including a friction lining carrier, at least one friction lining element, a restoring arrangement, means for generating a friction force and at least one holding element component arranged together in the manner set forth in claim 1, and particularly wherein the at least one friction lining element is displaceable circumferentially with respect to the carrier by a limited amount, the at least one holding component holding each said friction lining element axially on the friction lining carrier, and the at least one holding component having a radial retaining portion extending axially over a radially outer area of the friction lining element.

Nor does the prior art of record show or suggest a clutch disk including a friction lining carrier, at least one friction lining element, a restoring arrangement, means for generating a friction force and a friction increasing layer arranged together in the manner set forth in claim 20, and particularly wherein the at least one friction lining element is displaceable circumferentially with respect to the carrier by a limited amount, and the friction increasing layer is provided on one of a rear surface of the friction lining

element and an axial support surface of the friction lining carrier.

Nor does the prior art of record show or suggest a clutch disk including a friction lining carrier, at least one friction lining element, a restoring arrangement, means for generating a friction force and a friction increasing layer arranged together in the manner set forth in claim 21, and particularly wherein the at least one friction lining element is displaceable circumferentially with respect to the carrier by a limited amount, and the friction increasing layer comprises a scatter sintered layer provided on one of a rear surface of the friction lining element and an axial support surface of the friction lining carrier.

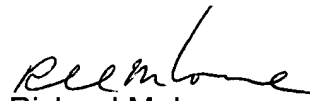
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Richard M. Lorence whose telephone number is (571) 272-7094. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays through Fridays from 9:00AM to 5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles A. Marmor can be reached on (571) 272-7095. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Richard M. Lorence
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3681

Lorence/rml